

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SAM-01 SAB-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AF-06

EA-06 ACDA-05 ARA-06 EUR-12 /097 R

DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:POAKLEY

APPROVED BY P:JJSISCO

NEA:HHSAUNDERS

IO:WBBUFFUM

S/S:MR BORG.

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 161087

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:JO, UN, IS, PLO, XF

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE LAUNCHING OF ARAB CAMPAIGN TO OUST
ISRAEL FROM UNGA AT ISLAMIC CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 157805

GENEVA PASS TO MOYNIHAN

FOR AMBASSADOR

1. AS YOU WILL UNDERSTAND FROM REFTEL, WE ARE SERIOUSLY
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CONCERNED THAT ISLAMIC FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING IN JIDDA
JULY 12-15 MAY DECIDE TO LAUNCH MOVE TO SUSPEND ISRAEL
FROM UNGA. WE WOULD LIKE YOU TO TALK TO RIFAI ABOUT
REPORT WE RECEIVED THAT THIS MIGHT HAPPEN, SEEKING HIS

VIEW AS TO LIKELIHOOD OF SUBJECT COMING UP AND LIKELY RESULT IF IT DOES. YOU SHOULD URGE JORDANIAN EFFORTS TO OPPOSE ANY SUCH STEP, DRAWING ON FOLLOWING TO EXPLAIN OUR CONVICTION THAT IT WOULD HAVE MOST SERIOUS NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES.

2. US STRONGLY OPPOSED TO THE SUSPENSION OR EXCLUSION OF ISRAEL FROM THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AS A MATTER OF PRINCIPLE AND FOR THE SAKE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, AS WELL AS FROM THE PRACTICAL STANDPOINT THAT SUCH A MOVE MIGHT VIRTUALLY BRING TO A HALT FURTHER NEGOTIATING EFFORTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST. THE US FEELS THAT THE ISSUE SHOULD NOT EVEN COME BEFORE THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND IS CONCERNED LEST INITIATIVES TAKEN ON THIS ISSUE COULD SET IN MOTION A CHAIN OF EVENTS THAT WOULD BE ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO STOP OR DIVERT. EVEN THOUGH IT MAY NOT BE EASY TO RESIST PROPOSALS IN FAVOR OF SUCH A MOVE AT JIDDA, DOING SO WILL BE A SMALL EFFORT COMPARED TO THE POLITICAL PRICE THAT WOULD HAVE TO BE PAID TO STOP IT LATER. SOME MIGHT THINK OF SUCH AN INITIATIVE AS A MANEUVERABLE PRESSURE DEVICE BUT IT COULD WELL GET OUT OF THE HANDS OF THOSE WHO SHARE OUR DESIRE FOR FURTHER PROGRESS IN THE PEACEFUL SEARCH FOR A MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT, AND INTO THE HANDS OF THOSE WHO REJECT THIS COURSE.

3. SHOULD IT BE EXCLUDED FROM THE GA, ISRAEL COULD WELL ARGUE THAT IT WAS NO LONGER BOUND BY UN RESOLUTIONS, INCLUDING RESOLUTIONS 242 AND 344 WHICH ARE, RESPECTIVELY, THE AGREED BASIS FOR NEGOTIATIONS AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE.

4. EVEN MORE FUNDAMENTAL, ACTION TO SUSPEND ISRAEL FROM THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY WOULD UNDERCUT THOSE IN THE US AND EUROPE, NOT TO MENTION THOSE IN ISRAEL, WHO ARE WORKING FROM THE PREMISE THAT LEADING ARAB GOVERNMENTS ARE PREPARED TO ACCEPT ISRAEL AND MAKE PEACE. PUBLIC REACTION TO SUCH A MOVE IN THE WEST WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY CONFIDENTIAL

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WEAKEN THE UN, PERHAPS BEYOND REPAIR, WITHOUT MAKING ANY CONTRIBUTION TO A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST; IN REALITY THE END RESULT WOULD MAKE ANY PROGRESS TOWARD PEACE INFINITELY MORE DIFFICULT AND THE DRIFT TO WAR MUCH MORE LIKELY.

5. FYI. SIMILAR DEMARCHES BEING MADE IN TUNIS, RABAT, ALGIERS, CAIRO, DAMASCUS AND JIDDA. END FYI. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 26 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EXPULSION, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE161087
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: IO/UNP:POAKLEY
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D750236-1245
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t197507104/baaaaost.tel
Line Count: 106
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 JUN 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <03 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 971008
Subject: n/a
TAGS: PFOR, PORC, IS, JO, UN, XF, PFOR, PLO, PORC
To: AMMAN NIACT INFO USUN N Y
GENEVA
TEL AVIV
BEIRUT
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

